



## Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2015

**File No. 333**

Senate Bill No. 487

*Senate, March 31, 2015*

The Committee on Transportation reported through SEN. MAYNARD of the 18th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

### **AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION OF ADULT STUDENTS IN TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 14-280 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
3 *1, 2015*):

4 (a) (1) When a school bus is used for any purpose other than the  
5 transportation of children to and from schools or school activities,  
6 private or public camps or any other activities for which groups of  
7 children are transported, the special signals normally used when so  
8 engaged shall be left unused or disconnected.

9 (2) Any student transportation vehicle when engaged in the  
10 transportation of children to and from private or public camps or the  
11 transportation exclusively of children to activities, except school  
12 activities, may display a sign or signs, as described in subsection (b) of  
13 this section. Any motor vehicle, other than a registered school bus, not

14 owned by a public, private or religious school, or under contract to  
15 such school, when engaged in the transportation of school children to  
16 and from school or school activities, may display a sign or signs, as  
17 described in subsection (b) of this section.

18 (3) Any student transportation vehicle, when engaged in the  
19 transportation of school children to and from school or school  
20 activities, shall display a sign or signs, as described in subsection (b) of  
21 this section, except a student transportation vehicle, when engaged in  
22 the transportation of students aged eighteen to twenty-one, inclusive,  
23 who, as part of an individualized education program, are participating  
24 in community-based transition services, may display a sign or signs, as  
25 described in subsection (b) of this section.

26 (4) Any portable signs, as described in subsection (b) of this section,  
27 that are permitted or required under this section may be removed or  
28 covered when the vehicle is not being used for the purposes requiring  
29 or allowing the use of such signs as specified in this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	July 1, 2015	14-280(a)
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**TRA**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

## **OFA Fiscal Note**

### **State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Education, Dept.	GF - Potential Savings	None	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

### **Municipal Impact:**

Municipalities	Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Local and Regional School Districts	Potential Savings	Minimal	Minimal

## **Explanation**

This bill allows, rather than requires, student transportation vehicles (STVs) to display a sign or signs with the words "Carrying School Children" when carrying students age 18 through 21 who, as part of an individualized education program, are taking part in community-based transition services. This could result in a potential savings to local and regional school districts as it allows greater flexibility when transporting adult students.

Additionally, there is a potential savings to the state. Local and regional school district transportation costs are reimbursed by the state through the transportation of school children grant, in the year subsequent to the year in which the local expenditure occurred. If local and regional costs decrease, the amount a municipality is eligible to receive will also decrease. The FY 15 appropriation for the grant is approximately \$24.9 million. The transportation of school children grant is formulated using a wealth-based sliding scale. However, for FY 15 the transportation of school children grant was flat funded and capped at approximately 27% of full formula funding, so any incurred

savings would be redistributed.

***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the rate of savings and the imposed cap on the transportation of school children grant.

**OLR Bill Analysis****SB 487*****AN ACT CONCERNING TRANSPORTATION OF ADULT STUDENTS  
IN TRANSITIONAL PROGRAMS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows, rather than requires, student transportation vehicles (STVs) to display a sign or signs with the words "Carrying School Children" when carrying students age 18 through 21 who, as part of an individualized education program (IEP), are taking part in community-based transition services. Under current law, STVs must display such a sign when carrying school children to and from school or school activities. By law, the signs must be in black lettering at least three inches high on a yellow background.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015

**BACKGROUND*****Student Transportation Vehicles (STV)***

An STV is a motor vehicle, other than a registered school bus, that a carrier uses to bring students to or from school, school programs, or school-sponsored events (CGS § 14-212 (9)).

***Individualized Education Program***

Under federal law, an IEP, is a written document describing the educational program for a child with a disability that is developed, reviewed, and revised as federal law requires (34 CFR 300.320).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 31 Nay 0 (03/18/2015)